

Meeting Minutes

Frederick County Sustainability Commission

Wednesday October 21, 2009

3:00 pm

3rd Floor Meeting Room, Winchester Hall, 12 E. Church Street, Frederick, MD

Present: Don Briggs, Steve Chafitz, Annmarie Creamer, Sally Fulmer, Lisa Gaver, Mark Lancaster, Margie Lance, Rich Maranto, Lisa Orr, Winifred Palmer, Kim Roberts, Fred Ugast, Janice Wiles; Hilari Varnadore, Evan Mellott staff

Others: Shannon Moore, Tim Goodfellow, Jack Cash, Naomi Bowers, Rebecca Robinson, Chuck Clark, Rick Donnally, Zach Bidle, Leah Crace-Jones, Mehal Trivedi, Ryan Trout, Dawn Adams, Phil Harris

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Chairman Don Briggs called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm

2. Administrative Items

Meeting Minutes: Fred Ugast made a motion to accept the minutes as revised 10/9/2009 and presented; Margie Lance seconded. All voted in favor of accepting the meeting minutes as presented.

Review and adopt mission statement: Lisa passed around the mission statement history. It was stated that people should remember and be able to say our mission so perhaps several versions are too text heavy. Four versions were voted on and received the following votes: #1 – 3; #2 – 4; #3 – 2; and #4 – 4. Options 2 and 4 were voted on and version #2 received 10 votes. The mission statement as adopted reads:

The Frederick County Sustainability Commission advances and accelerates the adoption of measurable strategies that solve environmental problems, protect critical natural resources, and strengthen our social and economic health now and in the future.

Review and accept Bylaws with mission statement: With the mission statement adopted, the Commission reviewed the bylaws for acceptance. The Commission agreed to add a sentence about their regular meetings: Meetings may be held less frequently at a vote of the majority. There was a typo identified in Section 2 e., which should read comprehensive “set of”. Margie Lance made a motion to add the sentence about meetings, fix the typo and include the new adopted mission statement. Fred Ugast seconded the motion. The bylaws were accepted and would go to the County Attorney’s Office for review.

OES updates – Hilari Varnadore provided updates on the new position of Sustainability Program Coordinator and introduced Evan Mellott the high school intern from Middletown HS.

3. Commission Comments

Commissioners gave brief updates on upcoming meetings. The Trash Summit hosted by the Alice Ferguson Foundation; waste meeting at Frederick Community College; Solar Tour (Oct. 3, 4); Solar Decathlon in DC; and Farmer Education Resource Day (Nov. 7) were highlighted. Margie mentioned that she spoke with the Green Restaurant Assoc. at the DC Green Festival.

4. Municipal Updates

Don Briggs asked if anyone on the Commission would be interested in serving as a liaison to the towns. The commission felt like this role could come from the retreat and wanted to wait and see how things progressed. Lisa Orr thought that including the municipal updates item on the agenda as a regularly scheduled item was a good idea. The Commission agreed by consensus that a letter should be sent to the Frederick County municipalities asking for their interest and participation in signing the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. Hilari Varnadore agreed to draft a letter for Don and Fred to sign.

5. Public Comments

Chuck Clair and Richard Donnally of the National Assoc. Industrial & Office Parks spoke. They are working to help their members be more responsible. LEED designation, geothermal, and green buildings are of interest to their association. They said that LEED's gold & platinum rating has become the new standard. They said that they could arrange tours of green buildings and had contact information for property managers & owners. Sustainability has become part of everyday life according to the team. Steve Chafitz asked them about commercial recycling and they expressed interest. They stated that they are finishing the Riverside 5 buildings which incorporate many green standards.

Rebecca Robinson of Volunteer Frederick provided a brief presentation on the Energy Action Corps Program. She announced that there would be an introductory meeting on Nov. 12th from 5:30 – 6:30pm at the C. Burr Artz Library. Rebecca's contact information is rebeccar@volunteerfrederick.org and the link to her presentation is: <http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/documents/County%20Manager/Sustainability/FCSC%20Presentations/Energy%20Action%20Corps%20presentation.PDF>

6. Staff Presentations

There were several staff presentations to get the Commission acquainted with some important issues facing the county prior to their retreat. The presentations included:

Watershed Management

Shannon Moore, Division of Public Works, Watershed Management Section

http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/documents/County%20Manager/Sustainability/FCSC%20Presentations/Watershed%20Management%20presentation_1.PDF

Green Infrastructure

Tim Goodfellow, Division of Planning, Comprehensive Planning Section

<http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/documents/County%20Manager/Sustainability/FCSC%20Presentations/Green%20Infrastructure%20presentation.PDF>

Solid Waste Management

Phil Harris, Dawn Adams and Annmarie Creamer

Division of Utilities and Solid Waste Management, Solid Waste Department

<http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/documents/County%20Manager/Sustainability/FCSC%20Presentations/DSWM%20Presentation.PDF>

Comprehensive Energy Plan

Jessica Stoner, Management Services Division

http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/documents/County%20Manager/Sustainability/FCSC%20Presentations/CEP%20presentation_1.PDF

7. EPA Energy Star for New Homes

Don Briggs noted that the US EPA came to Winchester Hall on 10/19/2009 to give an overview on the Energy Star for New Homes program. Seven commission members were present in addition to county employees. He stated that he would like to provide an overview to the rest of the commission, possibly at the retreat. The presentation is available on the commission's meeting materials section of the web site.

8. Retreat Update

Janice Wiles provided the Commission with an update on the retreat. She said that the strategic planning team had just met on Monday October 19th and that nothing was set in stone at present. She said that they were interested in organizing the retreat by built infrastructure, green infrastructure and personal environment or similar structure. They reviewed the B-Sustainable website for ideas.

9. Adjourn

Lisa Gaver made a motion to adjourn at 5:23 pm. Winnie Palmer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.